

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please insert the following headings and paragraph after the title on page 1:

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a 371 national stage application of International Application No. PCT/EP03/05737 filed June 2, 2003 which claims priority to German Application No. 10225619.5 filed June 7, 2002.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Field of the Invention

Please insert the following heading on page 1, before line 10:

Description of Related Art

Please insert the following paragraph and heading on page 2 after line 5:

The subject matter of US-A 3,965,537 is a tubular foodstuff casing composed of edible material, the casing being shirred in sections. The edible material is generally collagen, i.e. a natural protein. Each of the sections has been closed at one end via one rounded, one oblique, or two obliquely meeting seams, preferably produced via heat-sealing.

DE-U 201 19 904 discloses a tubular sausage casing composed of plastics material, the casing being closed at one end via a welded seam. The welded seam may have been produced via ultrasound, high-frequency welding, or heat impulse welding. In addition, a U-shaped adhesive tape generally surrounds the closed end region. The result is that the end of the sausage casing is particularly leakproof, and discharge of liquid is prevented.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Please insert the following heading on page 2, after line 21:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF A PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

Please amend the paragraph on page 2, beginning on line 23:

The present invention therefore provides sections of a tubular foodstuff casing closed at one end with a flat transverse seam, wherein the casing is composed of a heat-sealable polymer material, or has a layer or a coating thereof on the inner side, or wherein the casing is composed of uncoated or coated textile material, composed or knitted material, composed of nonwoven, or composed of non-fiber-reinforced or fiber-reinforced cellulose, where the transverse seam is a jointing seam which is a sealed seam or adhesive seam. [[t]]The seam is a jointing seam. The jointing seam is preferably a sealed seam, welded seam, or adhesive seam.

Please insert the following paragraph on page 7, after line 10:

Markings printed onto the foodstuff casing (print marks) and corresponding scanning sensors can be used to control precisely where the flat sealed seam or adhesive seam is to be produced.